If that Directive Principle was there, then why this new exercise for making education a fundamental right to the children? When this was already there in the Constitution, why did the Government not take some steps to implement the Directive Principle of State Policy in the Constitution? Why does he give all this story of State Education Ministers Conference and the attempts that he is making...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I completely agree with the hon. Member and our former Prime Minister. In spite of Article 45, it is unfortunate that in this country, still more than 40 per cent of the people are illiterate. In some State, more than 60 per cent of the people are illiterate, particularly women. There are districts in some States where only five per cent of the women are literate. Even the Supreme Court has ruled that it is obligatory on the part of the Government to give compulsory and free primary education. The intention is, if it is amended and made a fundamental right, then it will be justiciable for anybody to go to court and seek justice.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Will an illiterate Advasi be able to go to court? Let us not indulge in these things. These are serious matters...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : I agree with you. We have to amend it. Our intention is, by the end of the century, we want universal education to be brought in the country and we are trying to do it...*(Interruptions)*

DR. ASIM BALA : This question is about free education. Operation Black Board, Mid-day Meal Scheme and other projects are also going on. But I would like to say that even in areas of SCs and STs, there is no improvement in education. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether in the next Five Year Plan, the Government is going to introduce a special programme for areas fo Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI S.R. BOMMAI : We are contemplating to have more and more residential schools for SCs and STs.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Allahabad University as Central University

*245. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the proposal for making Allahabad University a Central University; and

(b) when the Government of Uttar Pradesh was asked to send its report in the matter and by when the Union Government are likely to take a decision on the take over of the University?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b). The issue of conversion of Allahabad University into a Central University has been under consideration of the Government for some time. In April, 1991,. a view emerged in a meeting, taken by the then Prime Minister, that State Universities which were established more than 100 years ago could be converted into Central Universities if the State Government concerned agree to it and are prepared to meet the assessed Non-Plan expenditure of the institution even after conversion.

In the case of Allahabad University, a Committee was set up consisting of representatives of the UGC and U.P. Government to assess, normatively, the Non-Plan expenditure of the University for the year 1990-91 for this purpose. This Committee assessed this expenditure at Rs. 8.55 Crores. However, the State Government have committed themselves to meet the liability of Rs. 6.46 Crores only being their actual contribution to the University for Non-Plan expenditure during 1990-91. Soon thereafter even Central Universities started facing the financial difficulties as the level of assistance to these universities could not keep pace with their projected requirements due to the need to contain budgetary deficit.

In view of the resource crunch being faced by the existing Central Universities and the inability of the State Government to fully meet the Non-Plan expenditure as assessed at 1990-91 level by the UGC Committee conversion of Allahabad University into a Central University is unlikely to materialise in the near future.

Major Irrigation Projects

*246. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre has aided several States for Major Irrigation Projects, give details thereof with funds given State-wise and project-wise during the past five years;

(b) whether 'Muvattupuzha Valley Irrigation Project' in Kerala is given such or other aid (of other agencies); if so, details thereof and details of funds given or earmarked, how have they been utilised, the stage of work of the project;

(c) whether funds allotted for this scheme have been diverted for other works or temporarily withdrawn; if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether funds would be released so that the work is completed in time?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCE (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

The details of Special Central Assistance for Major Irrigation Projects since March, 1992 are as under

Name of State	Name of Project	Amount of Central Assistance from 1992-93 to 1995-96 (Rs. Crores)	Approved outlay of Central Assistance for 1996-97 (Rs. Crores)	Remarks
Rajasthan	Indira Gandhi Nahar Pariyojana	244.00	60.00	Under Border Area Development Programme.
Haryana (Inter State)	Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal	22.95	8.00	Centrally funded Project.
West Bengal	Teesta Project	111.00	32.00 (Outlay)	Additional Central Assistance.
Orissa	Potteru Irrigation Project Project	34.80	4.77	Rehabilitation & Resettlement (Amount released so far during 1996-97 is Rs. 4.00)

An amount of Rs. 550 crores as Additional Central Loan Assistance for Sardar Sarovar Project was approved consequent to disengagement of the project from World Bank Assistance in March, 1993. Rs. 330.76 crores have been released so far (Gujarat Rs. 132.53 crores, Madhya Pradesh Rs. 134.51 crores & Maharashtra Rs. 63.72 crores).

During the year 1996-97, an amount of Rs. 900 crores has been provided in the budget of Ministry of Water Resources for giving Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the States for expediting implementation of on-going Irrigation & Multipurpose Projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). The Statewise, projectwise, details for amount of CLA approved and released for Major Irrigation & Multipurpose Project are as under :-

(Rs. in Crores)

S.No.	Name of State	Name of Project	Amount of C.L.A.	
			Approved	Released
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Sriram Sagar Stage I	63.00	31.50
2.	Bihar	Kosi Project (Western Kosi Canal)	20.00	10.00
		Upper Kiul	5.00	2.50
3.	Gujarat	Sardar Sarovar	93.00	46.50
4.	Haryana	Water Resource Consolidation Project	40.00	20.00
		Gurgaon Canal	5.00	2.50
5.	Karnataka	Upper Krishna Project Stage-I	114.00	57.00
		Malaprabha	3.00	1.50
6.	Kerala	Kallada	5.00	2.50
7.	Madhya Pradesh	Bansagar	31.00	15.50
		Indira Sagar	50.00	25.00
8.	Maharashtra	Goshokhurd	20.00	10.00
9.	Orissa	Rengali Irrigation	15.00	7.50
		Upper Indravati Right Bank Canal	38.00	19.00
		Subernarekha Irrigation	36.00	18.00
10.	Punjab	Ranjit Sagar Dam	90.00	45.00

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Tamil Nadu	Water Resources Consolidation Project	40.00	20.00
12.	Uttar Pradesh	Rajghat Dam	6.00	3.00
		Sharda Sahayak	20.00	10.00
		Upper Ganga Modernisation including Madhya Ganga.	20.00	10.00
		Sarju Nahar	18.00	9.00
13.	West Bengal	Teesta	5.00	2.50

(b) No Special Central Assistance has been given to the Government of Kerala by the Union Government for Muvattupuzha Valley Irrigation Project.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject and the funds for implementation of Irrigation Schemes are provided by the States in their annual budget. Central assistance is in form of block grants and loans not tied to any sector of development or project. No information about diversion or temporary withdrawal of funds from the project by the Government of Kerala is available at the Centre.

(d) The Government of Kerala has proposed inclusion of the project for Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP). No funds are proposed for this project under AIBP during 1996-97.

[Translation]

Polio Patients

*247. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of the polio patients in the country at present;

(b) the reasons for increase in the number of the polio patients;

(c) the measures taken to check the increase in the number of polio patients; and

(d) the schemes proposed to be launched by the Union Government for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) 779 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported by the districts till 30.10.1996 for the year 1996.

(b) The number of reported cases has come down from 28343 in 1987 to 8675 in 1995 (provisional data, source Central Bureau of Health Intelligence).

(c) and (d). There has been no increase in polio cases. However, during 1995-96 the Government of India have launched the Pulse Polio Immunization programme with the objective of eradication of Poliomyelitis.

[English]

SPDA in Assam

*248. SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Sports Project Development Areas (SPDA) set up in Assam and the other States, location-wise;

(b) whether there is any SPDA in southern Assam also; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) Only one Sports Project Development Area (SPDA) has been set up in Assam at Golaghat.

The details of the SPDA Centres set up in other States, location-wise are given in the statement attached.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. No proposal has been received for any SPDA in southern Assam.

STATEMENT

Details of SPDA Centres which are functional

S.No.	Name of State	Location of SPDA Centre
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Eluru 2. Nizamabad
2.	Assam	1. Golaghat
3.	Gujarat	1. Rajkot 2. Devgarh Baria
4.	Haryana	1. Kurukshetra
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Dharamshala